

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-12, 14-21, 32, 33, 35-41, and 47-52 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 13, 22-31, 34, and 42-46 have been canceled by the present response and Claims 47-52 have been added by the present response.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 21-23, 25-28, 30-33, 42, 43, 45, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yukino, U.S. patent 5,268,770, in view of Perrault et al, U.S. patent 3,914,538. Claims 6, 16, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yukino and Perrault et al ('538) in view of Ohmura et al, U.S. patent 5,815,280. Claims 24, 29, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yukino and Perrault et al ('538) in view of Nakagawa, U.S. patent 5,819,009.

Claims 3-5, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 34-36, and 38-41 were objected to as dependent upon rejected base claims, but were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of the allowable subject matter of Claims 3-5, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 34-36, and 38-41.

Initially, applicants note that the present response has obviated each of the above-noted rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) by amending the claims to recite allowable subject matter indicated in the outstanding Office Action. More specifically, independent Claim 1 now incorporates the subject matter of previously pending dependent Claim 3, and thus independent Claim 1, and each of the claims dependent therefrom, is now allowable.

Similarly, independent Claims 11 and 32 have been amended by the present response to now incorporate the subject matter of respective previously pending dependent Claims 13 and 34.

Thus, amended independent Claims 11 and 32, and the claims dependent therefrom, now also recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action.

With respect to previously pending Claims 1-46, the other pending claims have been canceled.

However, the present response has also now set forth new Claims 47-52 for examination which are believed to also patentably define over the applied art.

New independent Claims 47 and 52 have been written to recite a feature in the present invention that a printer unit is usable with an external device, such as a personal computer (for example if a printer unit includes a centronics interface or the like that complies with certain standards), which may be attached to a facsimile apparatus to print facsimile images. Such a dual nature of a printer unit in the present invention can be achieved by the device and method of new claims 47-52.

Further, new independent Claims 47 and 50 recite that a gate unit receives all black font data from a control unit and facsimile data from a printer interface unit and supplies a logical AND of the all black font data and the facsimile data to the printer portion when the printer unit prints images of the facsimile data. Such subject matter as recited in new independent Claims 47 and 50, and claims dependent therefrom, is believed to be neither taught nor suggested by any of the cited art.

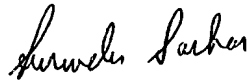
According to the present invention as recited in new Claims 47-52, and with reference to Figure 2 of the present specification as one example, in order for a printer unit, which may be supplied with a centronics interface or their like to print facsimile data (and as is also further recited in new dependent Claims 48 and 51), a recording controller 20 may supply font data corresponding to character codes to a printing portion 27 when it is printing character code data, and can supply all-black font data to the gate circuit 26 when printing

facsimile data. The gate circuit 26 can receive print data from the interface circuit 7 in synchronization with the pulse signal indicative of supply timings of the all-black font data (as is more clearly recited in new dependent Claims 49 and 52), and can perform a logical AND operation of the all-black font data in the print data, followed by supplying the print image to the printing portion. Based on such an operation a printer unit can print facsimile data at such a speed as the font data is printed from character codes. Such subject matter as recited in new Claims 47-52 is believed to be neither taught nor suggested by the applied art. Thus, new Claims 47-52 also set forth allowable subject matter.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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